

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-13 ADP-00 STR-08 TRSE-00 COME-00

SS-15 NSC-10 L-03 OMB-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 AGR-20 CIEP-02 PRS-01 RSR-01 /122 W

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R 301605Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1919

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSIN EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 3843

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, GATT, US, EC

SUBJECT: ARTICLE XXIV:6 NEGOTIATIONS

REF: STATE 169850

SUMMARY: MFA STATE SECRETARY RESPONDED IN FRIENDLY AND GUARDEDLY POSITIVE VEIN TO CHARGE'S REQUEST FOR COOPERATION IN SWEETENING EC COMMISSION'S POSITION IN XXIV:6 NEGOTIATIONS. APPROACH TO ECON MINISTRY PLANNED ON FRIDAY. ACTION REQUESTED: PARA 6. END SUMMARY

1. CHARGE AND ECON OFFICER CALLED AUG 29 ON STATE SECRETARY BRINKHORST AND VAN SWINDERN OF EUROPEAN INTEGRATION SECTION OF MFA. WE REVIEWED PROBLEM AS LAID OUT IN REFTTEL, POINTING CONFIDENTIAL

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OUT THAT OFFER BEING CONSIDERED BY EC COMMISSION, EVEN INCLU-

DING ADDITIONAL 30 BINDINGS REPORTEDLY UNDER STUDY, FAILS TO COMPENSATE ADEQUATELY FOR CONCESSIONS LOST BY U.S. THROUGH ENLARGEMENT. WE STATED THAT U.S. WILL WISH TO NEGOTIATE ON BASIS OF FURTHER SPECIFIC ITEMS AND REQUESTED ACTIVE NETHERLANDS SUPPORT IN ARRIVING AT FAIR SETTLEMENT OF PROBLEM. LETTER FROM CHARGE TO STATE SECRETARY INCORPORATING TEXT IN REFTEL WAS LEFT, TOGETHER WITH SEPARATE SHEET SHOWING ITEMS IN PARAS 5 AND 6 REFTEL AS ILLUSTRATION OF ADDITIONAL CONCESSIONS REQUIRED. WE EMPHASIZED THAT, IN THE AGGREGATE, REPORTED CONCESSIONS WERE SIMPLY INSUFFICIENT IN QUALITY AND QUANTITY.

2. BRINKHORST'S RESPONSE EXPRESSED GON AWARENESS OF USG PROBLEM. HE VOLUNTEERED IMPORTANCE OF DEMONSTRATING TO CONGRESS THE EC WILL TO ADJUST ITS POSITION, THUS ENCOURAGING USEFUL CONGRESSIONAL MANDATE FOR EXECUTIVE BRANCH TO ENGAGE IN TRADE NEGOTIATIONS. HE STATED GON WOULD SUPPORT CONSTRUCTIVE APPROACH IN EC DELIBERATIONS. HE DOUBTED THAT WORKING PARTY MEETING SEPT 4 IN BRUSSELS WOULD MAKE MUCH PROGRESS. QUESTION WOULD BE PASSED TO MINISTERIAL LEVEL MEETING SEPT 20 IN WHICH HE WOULD TAKE PART.

3. STATE SECRETARY ASKED WHETHER USG DEMARCHE WAS SIMPLY RESULT OF STUDY OF COMMISSION'S OFFER AND REPORTED ADDITIONAL LIST OR ALSO REACTION TO TREND IN TALKS IN GENEVA. WE EXPRESSED PERSONAL UNDERSTANDING THAT OUR APPROACH RELATED ONLY TO USG STUDY OF AVAILABLE INFORMATION REGARDING CONCESSIONS UNDER COMMISSION STUDY AND OUR CONCLUSION THAT THEY DID NOT CONSTITUTE FAIR OR ADEQUATE SETTLEMENT FOR LOST BINDINGS HOWEVER, HE PRESSED FOR CLARIFICATION WHETHER APPROACH WAS RELATED TO DEVELOPMENTS IN GENEVA AND WE UNDERTOOK TO INQUIRE.

4. BRINKHORST ALSO STATED THAT PROGRESS IN COMMISSION CONSIDERATION WOULD BE ADVANCED BY POSITIVE U.S. STATEMENT IN TOKYO. IN SUBSEQUENT CLARIFICATION OF THIS SUGGESTION, VAN SWINDEREN CHARACTERIZED PRESENT SITUATION AMONG MTN PRINCIPALS (U.S., JAPAN AND EC) AS ONE OF JOCKEYING FOR POSITION AND AVOIDING INITIATIVE. SOME BREAKTHROUGH IS NEEDED AND IT IS ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE FOR UNWIELDY GROUP COMPRISING EC TO SUPPLY IT. IF USG SHOULD TAKE INITIATIVE IN
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FORM OF GENERAL STATEMENT EVIDENCING LIBERAL APPROACH IN TOKYO, IT WOULD HELP REMOVE UNCERTAINTY ABOUT BENEFICIAL RESULTS OF OVERALL NEGOTIATIONS AND ENCOURAGE MOVEMENT IN BRUSSELS.

5. CHARGE HAS APPOINTMENT AUGUST 31 WITH ECON MINISTER LUBBERS OR HIS DIRECTOR OF MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS VAN WIJK. WE PLAN PARALLEL APPROACH INCLUDING PRESENTATION OF LETTER

AND WILL REPORT RESULTS.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: WOULD APPRECIATE INFORMATION TO
ANSWER BRINKHORST'S QUESTION WHETHER GENEVA TALKS SUPPLIED
IMPETUS TO OUR DEMARCHE.
TANGUY

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NNN

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